



THE
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JANUARY TRIP TO TOMALES POINT

A clear day between two rainy ones was found, on January 16, to be ideal for study of both land and water birds on a trip which included stops at "Olema" marsh near our starting point at Point Reyes Station, at and near Inverness on Tomales Bay, and in the Bishop pines of the upper part of Tomales Bay State Park, as well as a walk to the tip of Tomales Point from the outer McClure Ranch. On our arrival at the marsh we were greeted by a noisy Red-shouldered Hawk, and diligent hand-clapping and shouting finally brought responding calls from both Sora and Virginia Rails. Even without a thorough study of the many shorebirds at the south end of Tomales Bay, where probably 6 or 7 kinds were missed, the number of species of birds in all areas visited totalled 104 or more, including one, the Merlin, found only by one party on Lagunitas Creek near Tocoloma. The strong westerly wind on the exposed point in the afternoon did not deter most of the 27 persons on the trip from making the entire 3½-mile hike along the top of the sea cliffs. Far offshore a whale was seen spouting, and numbers of Harbor Seals and Steller Sea-lions were on rocks or in the water close to the point. The hikers were also rewarded by seeing certain birds there that are always found most regularly on or near such rocky headlands, the Harlequin Duck and Oystercatcher.

The following list is of all birds found in all areas above-mentioned: Common Loon, Arctic Loon, Red-throated Loon, Red-necked Grebe (2), Horned Grebe, Eared Grebe, Western Grebe, Pied-billed Grebe, White Pelican (only 1!), Brown Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, Brandt Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Am. Egret, Snowy Egret (2), Black-crowned Night Heron, Black Brant (hundreds), Mallard, Am. Widgeon, Pintail, Canvas-back (150 est.), Scaup, sp.? (several), Am. Golden-eye, Bufflehead, Old-squaw (2?), Harlequin Duck (3 males, 1 female), White-winged Scoter, Surf Scoter, Ruddy Duck, Red-breasted Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Peregrine Falcon, Merlin (Pigeon Hawk), Sparrow Hawk, Calif. Quail, Virginia Rail, Sora, Coot, Black Oyster-catcher (3), Killdeer, Willet, Western Sandpiper, Glaucous-winged Gull, Western Gull, Herring Gull, Calif. Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Mourning Dove, Burrowing Owl, Anna Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Red-shafted Flicker, Acorn Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Say Phoebe, Horned Lark, Steller Jay, Scrub Jay, Common Raven, Am. Crow, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Bush-tit, Pygmy Nuthatch (5), Brown Creep-

er, Wren-tit, Winter Wren, Bewick Wren, Rock Wren (1, entered hole in hay-loft of barn!), Robin (hundreds), Varied Thrush (dozens), Hermit Thrush, Western Bluebird, Mountain Bluebird (3), Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Water Pipit, Cedar Waxwing, Starling (several), Hutton Vireo, Orange-crowned Warbler, Myrtle Warbler (2 ? ones along outermost point), Audubon Warbler, House Sparrow, Western Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Tri-colored Blackbird, Brewer Blackbird, House Finch, Pine Siskin, Lesser Goldfinch, Spotted Towhee, Brown Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Oregon Junco, White-crowned Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Song Sparrow.

—H. L. COGSWELL, *Leader and Historian*.

JANUARY TRIP TO LAKE MERRITT AND LAKESIDE PARK

Nearly 40 members and friends assembled this cool Saturday morning, January 29, at the Duck Feeding Area in Lakeside Park. It was the writer's privilege to point out the recently finished "Duck Islands" and the re-established log boom which again completely closes this Northeast Arm of the Lake to all boating during the winter months. After a short tour along shore toward the Embarcadero an inclement turn of weather impelled most of the group to return to the Feeding Area and the comfortable Rotary Natural Science Center, where good use was made of the study skin collection to further waterfowl study. Although population figures have been low this year at Lake Merritt the following 42 species were listed by the main party and by some junior members who later circled the park. Forty-five members and guests later enjoyed the hospitality of the Arthur Myers for coffee.

Eared Grebe, Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Am. Egret, Mallard, Baldpate, Pintail, Canvasback, Lesser Scaup, Am. Golden-eye, Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck, Coot, Killdeer, Glaucous-winged Gull, Western Gull, Herring Gull, Calif. Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Short-billed Gull, Bonaparte Gull, Anna Hummingbird, Red-shafted Flicker, Black Phoebe, Scrub Jay, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Wren-tit, Varied Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Audubon Warbler, House Sparrow, Brewer Blackbird, Purple Finch, Spotted Towhee, Brown Towhee, Oregon Junco, White-crowned Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Song Sparrow.

—PAUL F. COVEL, *Park Naturalist, Oakland Park Department*.

NEW MEMBERS. We welcome the following: from San Francisco, Willard P. Belding, Mrs. H. C. Cranfill, Misses S. and C. L. Griffith, Thomas Griffith, James V. Lawry, Jr., Mrs. Martha F. Muckols, John S. Niebauer, Mrs. Olga Wesely; from Oakland, John M. Bemis, Miss Eleanor Elliott, Winthrop L. Keep, Robert K. Spaulding, Mrs. Charles M. Wood; from Berkeley, Howard J. Browne, Mrs. Beatrice A. Carpenter, H. R. Chaffee, Mrs. H. A. Hussey, S. C. Pepper, Prof. H. A. Schade; from Alameda, Randal F. Dickey, Jr.; from San Rafael, Robert T. Evju; from San Anselmo, Mrs. L. B. McBride, E. A. Schlueter; from Healdsburg, Elmer P. Kayser.

NEW EXCHANGES: THE QUAIL (Mt. Diablo Audubon Society) and THE ROADRUNNER (Maricopa Audubon Society, Phoenix); Exchanges are filed at the Rotary Natural Science Center in Oakland. The attractive drawing adorning THE QUAIL was by Harry C. Adamson.

REPORT OF FIELD TRIPS COMMITTEE FOR 1954

MONTH	REGULAR SUNDAY TRIPS	ATTENDANCE	SPECIES
January	Tomales Bay	25	90
February	Ritchie Ranch (near Lodi)	70	61
March	Rodeo Lagoon	60	65
April	McCoy Ranch (Livermore)	42	43
May	Los Banos	14	57
June	Mt. Hamilton Springs and Hall Valley	29	70
July	Moss Landing	30	41
August	Dumbarton Bridge	52	44
September	Bay Farm Island, Alameda	75	31
October	Ross and Marin Lakes	19	42
November	Joice Island	45	61
December	Conn Lake	38	77
Average		42	57
REGULAR SATURDAY TRIPS			
January	Lake Meritt, Oakland	30	22
February	Berkeley Aquatic Park	30	41
March	Jewel Lake, Tilden Park	45	42
April	Bay Farm Island, Alameda	40	40
May	St. Mary's College	50	55
June	Strawberry Canyon, Berkeley	25	34
July	Golden Gate Park	32	34
August	Redwood Canyon	23	30
September	Dimond Canyon, Oakland	26	22
October	Tilden Park	25	57
November	Orinda	35	69
Average		33	40
SPECIAL TRIP CONDUCTED BY HOWARD L. GOGSWELL			
October 3	Farallon Islands	18	29
Grand Average		37	48

— FRANK A. SCOTT, *Field Trips Chairman*.

AUDUBON CAMP. The Audubon Camp of California will meet at Sugar Bowl Lodge: June 26 - July 9; July 10 - 23; July 24 - Aug. 6; August 7 - 20; August 21 - September 3. Further information may be obtained from the California Office (address on page 4). The Golden Gate Audubon Society is planning to award 6 camperships this year, which will pay half of the total fee which in past years has been \$ 90. Applications should be made by letter, stating qualifications such as age, past and present occupation, future plans, etc., to the Campership Chairman, Mrs. Edward A. Sibley, 229 Juanita Way, San Francisco 27.

PACIFIC COAST AUDUBON CONVENTION. April 2 - 5, Asilomar. The preliminary program announces the following: April 2 — Tidal Pools Field Trip; Opening Session with speaker Dr. Walter P. Taylor; April 3 — Choice of Field Trips; 3 Sessions with Mrs. O. M. Stultz, Bill and Mary V. Hood, and Dale V. Leever and Kenneth Wade; Banquet at the Mission Ranch; April 4 — Session on State and Federal Conservatich Issues with Edward F. Dolder, Woodbridge Metcalf and Kenneth D. Morrison; Field Trip to Moss Landing and Elkhorn Slough; April 5 — Field Trip to William Hatton Ranch or Ocean Boat Trip.

OBSERVATIONS. The Editor wishes to acknowledge a number of contributions which space has not permitted publication of as yet, but which it is planned to include in future issues.

MARCH MEETING

The 450th regular meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society will be combined with the fourth of the series of Screen Tour lectures in the Berkeley High School Little Theater on Thursday, March 10, at 8 p.m. Mr. Fran William Hall will show his film "South to Siesta Land".

—MRS. BUDD J. SMITH, *Program Chairman.*

MARCH FIELD TRIPS

On Sunday, March 13, to SAN ANDREAS and CRYSTAL SPRINGS RESERVOIRS, San Mateo County. This area, not visited by our group for years, has a variety of habitats including dense oak-laurel-madrone forest with some Douglas fir, areas of broken woodland, various chaparral types, grassland, and the two large lakes where Ospreys and Bald Eagles have stopped in migration. There should still be a fair number of waterfowl, perhaps including Redheads, Ring-necked Ducks, and Common and Hooded Mergansers. Among the summer resident land birds, several of the swallows and other early arrivals can be expected. By special arrangement with the San Francisco Water Department we can drive into the main reservoir grounds; for those wishing it, a hike of several miles over a ridge to the more remote Pilarcitos Lake is possible. Meet at 8:45 at El Camine Real and Millbrae Ave. in Millbrae. This point can be reached by Greyhound bus leaving the San Francisco terminal at 8:00. The group will proceed by caravan from Millbrae to the Reservoirs. Bring binoculars, telescope, lunch, and interested friends. Leader Arhtur Bennett, JUNO 8-6702.

On Saturday, March 26, to LAKE MERCED and FLEISHHACKER ZOO, San Francisco. Meet at 9:00 at the south entrance to the Zoo, just west of the north end of Skyline Blvd. (near Sloat Blvd.) The zoo grounds will be covered for the wild birds, such as Allen Hummingbirds, Quail, Gulls and Ducks (including, we hope, the European Widgeon that has been there again this winter). Marsh Wrens, Yellow-throats, and Rails are probable in the marshy borders of Lake Merced; and a nearby Bank Swallow colony can be visited if the birds have arrived. Bring binoculars, interested friends, and lunch. Leader, Howard L. Cogswell, TR. 3-6419.

—HOWARD L. COGSWELL, *Field Trips Chairman.*

Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc.

Established January 25, 1917

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Changes of Address should be sent to the Corresponding Secretary.

Monthly meetings second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint Membership, Local and National \$5.00 per year, includes AUDUBON MAGAZINE. Local Membershi only, \$1.50 per year.

Branch of NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY, California Office — 2426 Bancroft Way, Berkeley 4 — TH. 8-4042